

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CAIRO 04975 091325Z

43

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 TRSE-00 SS-20 SSO-00 DRC-01 RSC-01 /039 W

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O 091306Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7626

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 4975

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: OVIP EG

SUBJ: VISIT OF SECRETARY SIMON

REF: STATE 146552

1. I AM OF COURSE PLEASED TO BE OF ALL POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE IN PREPARING SECRETARY SIMON FOR HIS VISIT TO EGYPT. SAME TIME I AM UNEASY ABOUT BEING AWAY FROM CAIRO DURING CRITICAL DAYS IMMEDIATELY BEFORE HIS ARRIVAL. OUR PAST EXPERIENCE WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER'S VISITS HAVE DEMONSTRATED VIVIDLY, AND AT TIMES PAINFULLY, THAT EGYPTIAN PLANNING LEAVES SOMETHING TO BE DESIRED. I HAVE REGULARLY HAD TO INTERVENE PERSONALLY AT HIGHEST LEVELS AT THE LAST MINUTE TO GET APPOINTMENTS FIRMED UP WHEN STAFF LEVEL CONTACTS FLOUNDERED. THIS IS PARTICULARLY TRUE IN MEETINGS WITH PRESIDENT SADAT, WHO AS YOU KNOW WILL BE IN ALEXANDRIA.

2. ASSUMING WE HAVE EVERYTHING NAILED DOWN BY MORNING OF JULY 13, I COULD CATCH AN AIR FRANCE FLIGHT DIRECT TO NICE, ARRIVING THERE 1020 A.M. LOCAL TIME. THIS WOULD BE WELL BEFORE SECRETARY SIMON'S SCHEDULED DEPARTURE TIME FROM NICE AND I COULD BRIEF HIM ON THE PLANE. ALTERNATIVELY, DEPENDING ON SECRETARY SIMON'S CONVENIENCE, I COULD BRIEF HIM ON EVENING OF JULY 13 DURING WHAT WE HAVE SCHEDULED AS FREE TIME.

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3. ADVISE WHICH SECRETARY SIMON WOULD PREFER. I
WILL BE GUIDED BY HIS WISHES.
EILTS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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